

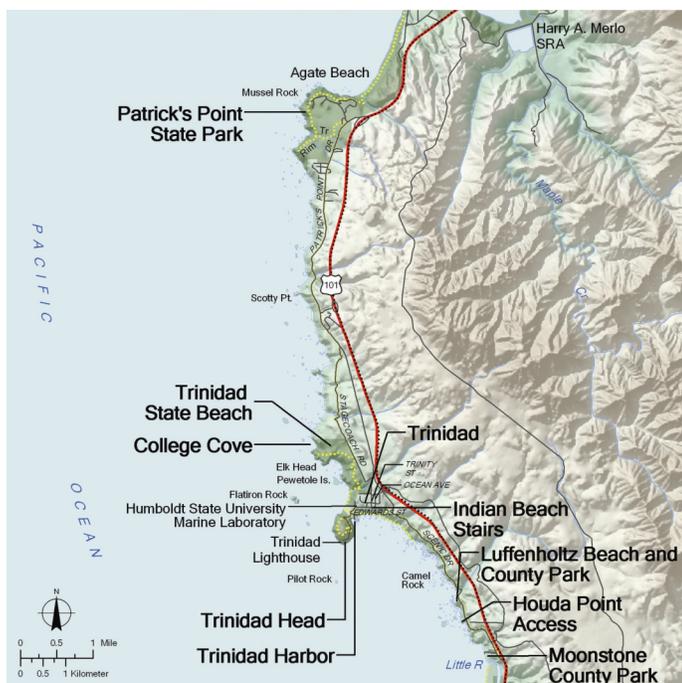
...and the answer is...

c. Patrick's Point State Park

“Patrick's Point State Park offers one square mile of high ocean cliffs, driftwood-scattered beaches, and dense forests of Douglas fir, pine, and red alder. This well-maintained park contains an unusually broad array of coastal habitats, and offers varied opportunities for recreation and learning.

There are 125 campsites with tables, fire pits, restrooms, and wheelchair-accessible showers, along with group and hike or bike sites. For day use there are several picnic areas and six miles of hiking trails. The Rim Trail follows a route along the ocean bluff originally used by Native Americans who lived in the area. From the trail, visitors can see whales, sea lions, and harbor seals, as well as the coastline from Big Lagoon in the north to Trinidad Head in the south. An old-growth Sitka spruce forest is traversed by the Octopus Tree Trail, and two wheelchair-accessible trails lead to ocean overlooks. Agate Beach at the north end of the park is scattered with small pieces of agate and jade and has tide pools with sea anemones, sea stars, and rock crabs.

A visitor center offers activities such as agate jewelry workshops and basket weaving classes and campfire programs are available. A reconstructed Yurok village known as Sumêg, with traditional-style family houses, a sweat house, changing houses, and a dance house, is located within the state park. Local Yuroks continue to use the village to pass on cultural traditions to their youth and to share them with the public. A nearby Native American garden contains plants used by the Yuroks for medicines, baskets, and other purposes.



Offshore rocks near Mussel Rock provide breeding habitat for seabirds such as pigeon guillemots, black oystercatchers, and cormorants. The lush undergrowth in the forest includes salal, bracken fern, and azaleas. Dogs are allowed on leash within the state park, except on beaches and trails. For information, call (707) 677-3570.”

- Excerpt from *Experience the California Coast, A Guide to Beaches and Parks in Northern California*, by the California Coastal Commission, www.ucpress.edu/series.php?ser=ecc.

Visit Patrick's Point State Park on the web:
www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=417.

Patrick's Point State Park is located less than six miles from Trinidad (www.discovertrinidadca.com), home to the Humboldt State University Marine Laboratory (www.humboldt.edu/marinelab/).